

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 076247

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ILZSG

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL LEAD AND ZINC STUDY GROUP; MEETING
OF STANDING COMMITTEE MAY 23

FROM: ASHLEY C. HEWITT JR., ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE

1. FOR EMBASSY LONDON, PLEASE PASS TO MR. KEITH BUCK,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEAD AND ZINC
STUDY GROUP. FOR EMBASSY PARIS, PLEASE PASS TO
MR. ROBERT DIETRICH, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND RESOURCES,
GOF.

2. AGENDA FOR THE MAY 23 MEETING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE IS FULLY SATISFACTORY. HOWEVER YOU MAY WISH
TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

ITEM 1: I THINK YOU SHOULD SEND A CABLE TO MR. JAIN ASKING
IF HE INTENDS TO COME FOR THE MEETING AND INFORMING HIM
THAT I AM AVAILABLE TO TAKE THE CHAIR IF HE CANNOT.

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ITEM 9C: WHO HAS REQUESTED THIS STUDY. I SUGGEST THAT
MR. EVANS PREPARE A LIST OF THE STUDIES WHICH HE INTENDS
TO PREPARE OVER THE TWO-THREE YEARS SO THAT THE STANDING

COMMITTEE CAN EVALUATE THEIR NEED AND ASSIGN PRIORITIES.
NEITHER DIETRICH NOR I COULD RECALL IT.

ITEM 14: THE STANDING COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER THE ELECTION OF A NEW VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE IN VIEW OF THE MOVE TO LONDON. I AM PREPARED TO STEP DOWN AND IT MAKES SENSE TO HAVE SOMEBODY ON THE SPOT IN LONDON TO SERVE IN THIS CAPACITY, ESPECIALLY IF MR. JAIN IS TO CONTINUE TO HOLD THE CHAIRMAN'S POSITION. IT MAY BE THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL WISH TO ELECT BOTH A NEW CHAIRMAN AND A NEW VICE CHAIRMAN. MR. THIGPEN WOULD DOUBTLESS BE WILLING TO SERVE IN ONE OF THESE CAPACITIES, BUT THERE IS NO NECESSITY THAT THE U.S. HOLD ONE OF THESE JOBS SINCE I WOULD EXPECT TO CONTINUE AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE STUDY GROUP.

3. AS YOU INDICATED IN YOUR MARCH 29 LETTER, THE FRG AND PERHAPS OTHERS MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EITHER IN ADDITION TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE OR INSTEAD OF IT. AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WOULD PROBABLY BE SMALLER THAN THE STANDING COMMITTEE, CONSIST PRIMARILY OF LONDON REPS, AND MEET MORE OFTEN THAN THE STANDING COMMITTEE. IT WOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO MEET ON AN AD HOC BASIS AS REQUIRED. A STRONG ARGUMENT CAN BE MADE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND I SHOULD THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO YOU. HOWEVER I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS BEFORE THE MAY 23 MEETING. I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE AN ANALYSIS OF WHAT JURIDICAL STEPS WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, ITS POSSIBLE COMPOSITION, HOW IT MIGHT FUNCTION, AND WHAT POWERS IT

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SHOULD HAVE. MY INCLINATION IS TO HAVE A DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE IN THE COURSE OF THE MAY 23 MEETING, BUT DEFER FINAL DECISION UNTIL THE FULL MEETING OF THE STUDY GROUP IN THE FALL, BUT I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS AS WELL.

4. WITH REGARD TO ARRANGEMENTS, I COMMEND YOUR STRONG AND TIMELY SENSE OF ECONOMY IN SUGGESTING THAT DELEGATES BE ASKED TO PAY FOR THE BOX LUNCH WE INTEND TO PROVIDE IN ORDER TO GET THROUGH THE AGENDA IN ONE DAY. HOWEVER, CONSIDERING THE SAVINGS WE WOULD EXPERIENCE BY LIMITING THE MEETING TO ONE DAY, YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER PAYING FOR LUNCH FROM THE STUDY GROUP ACCOUNT AS A FAIR EXCHANGE FOR KEEPING THE DELEGATES FROM THE FLESHPOTS OF LONDON.

5. PLEASE TELL ROSS STUBBS THAT WE ARE EXTREMELY PLEASED THAT HE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THE

STATISTICAL POSITION IN THE COURSE OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE MEETING. AS YOU KNOW, THERE IS MORE THAN
USUAL INTEREST IN THIS EXERCISE THIS YEAR. HOWEVER YOU
MAY WISH TO INDICATE TO HIM THAT TIME WILL BE LIMITED
IN VIEW OF THE LENGTH OF THE AGENDA. HE WILL HAVE
BETWEEN TWO AND THREE HOURS AT MY ESTIMATE. IF THERE IS
ANYTHING WE CAN DO HERE TO PREPARE FOR THIS REVIEW
PLEASE LET US KNOW.
VANCE

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